



Georgetown-Scott County Parks and  
Recreation  
140 Pavilion Drive

Phone: (502) 863-7865 · Fax: (502) 867-3710 · [www.gscparks.com](http://www.gscparks.com) ·  
[gscparks@gscparks.com](mailto:gscparks@gscparks.com)

Dear Participant/Spectator/Leader:

GSC Parks strives to promote the ideals of teamwork, physical conditioning, sportsmanship, and acceptable social behavior at all sports related events. It is imperative that participants, spectators, and leaders ensure an environment which will provide these ideals.

It is your responsibility as a participant, spectator, or leader to familiarize yourself with the Behavior Management Policy and Procedures, which has been adopted by GSC Parks. Every facility, program and sport have its own rules regarding sportsmanship; the purpose of this policy is to define sportsmanship expectations of behavior for our department and to serve above and beyond the rules of the game and participation in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

If you have any questions about the Behavior Management Policy and Procedures or would like additional free copies, please call GSC Parks at 502-863-7865.

## Contents

<b>Policy</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>POL.A.07.08 - Behavior Management</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Procedure</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>PRO.ADMIN.07.01 – Procedures for Behavior Management</b>	<b>2</b>
Definitions	3
Adults	3
Youth	3
Leader	3
<b>Physical Altercation (Fighting)</b>	<b>3</b>
Leaders	3
Participants	4
Adults	4
Youth	4
Fans/Spectators	4
<b>Verbal Abuse</b>	<b>5</b>
Adult Leaders and/or Participants	5
Youth Leaders and/or Participants	5
Harassing Fans/Spectators	6
<b>Use of Racial and/or Gender Epithets</b>	<b>6</b>
Leaders	6
Participants	6
<b>Unsportsmanlike Conduct</b>	<b>7</b>



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<b>Failure to Follow Rules and/or Directions from Leaders, Staff, and/or Management</b>	7
Adult Leaders and/or Participants	7
Youth Leaders and/or Participants	8
<b>Procedures Following Incident</b>	8

## Policy

### POL.A.07.08 - Behavior Management

All park and facility users and program participants are always expected to exhibit appropriate behavior. The following guidelines have been developed to help make GSC Parks facilities and programs safe and enjoyable for all participants. GSC Parks insists that all participants and visitors comply with a basic behavior code. All participants and visitors shall:

- 1) Show respect to all participants, staff and volunteers. Participants should follow program rules and take directions from staff.
- 2) Refrain from using abusive or offensive foul language.
- 3) Refrain from threatening or causing bodily harm to self, other participants, staff or any other individuals.
- 4) Show respect for equipment, supplies and facilities.

A positive approach will be used regarding discipline. Staff will periodically review rules with participants and during the program session. If inappropriate behavior occurs, a prompt resolution will be sought specific to everyone's situation. The agency reserves the right to immediately dismiss a participant whose behavior endangers his or her own safety or the safety of others.

## Procedure

### PRO.ADMIN.07.01 – Procedures for Behavior Management

GSC Parks strives to promote the ideals of teamwork, physical conditioning, sportsmanship, and acceptable social behavior at all sports related events. It is imperative that participants, spectators, and leaders ensure an environment which will provide these ideals. Therefore, any unsportsmanlike conduct, including, but not limited to, fighting, verbal abuse, or racial and gender epithets involving fans, coaches, participants or players will not be tolerated.



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## Definitions

### *Adults*

Individuals who are 18 years and older

### *Youth*

Individuals who are 17 years and younger

### *Leader*

Individual who holds a supervisory position, including but not limited to, program coaches, assistant coaches, program officials, and program supervisors.

**Note:** Sporting activities and sports related events sponsored by the GSC Parks includes but is not limited to: Archery, Baseball, Basketball, Football, Softball, Soccer, Swimming, Tennis, Cheerleading, and Volleyball. (i.e. if one is suspended from basketball, they are also suspended from any other sport such as football, baseball, softball, etc)

## **Physical Altercation (Fighting)**

A hostile encounter with another party, or parties, resulting in physical struggle or contact, will be defined as a “fight”. Fighting will not be tolerated on the part of any leader, participant, or fan/spectator associated with a GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

### *Leaders*

It is the goal of GSC Parks is to provide an environment where our participants can grow, not only physically, but also mentally. It is the responsibility of our leaders to provide an example of self-control and integrity in the hope that others will follow their example. Any “leader” involved in a physical altercation (fight) will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

#### *First Offense*

Up to one-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

#### *Second Offense*

Up to lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.



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### *Participants*

A participant is an individual, other than a leader or a fan/spectator, who takes an active part in the GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks that the GSC Parks sponsors. Any participant involved in a physical altercation (fighting) will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

#### *Adults*

##### *First Offense*

Up to a one-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

##### *Second Offense*

Up to a three-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

##### *Third Offense*

Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

#### *Youth*

##### *First Offense*

(Youth: 17 & Under) Up to a one-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

##### *Second Offense*

(Youth: 17 & Under) Up to a three-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from all GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks until the age of eighteen (18) or for one (1) year, whichever is greater.

##### *Third Offense*

(Youth: 17 & Under) Suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from all GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks until the age of 18.

### *Fans/Spectators*

A fan/spectator is an individual who participates in a sporting activity or sporting related event by demonstrating support without taking a leadership or participant role in that particular event. Any spectator who is involved in a fight will be subject to the following measures:

##### *First Offense*

Up to one-year suspension as a fan/spectator, participant, and leader from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.



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#### Second Offense

Up to three-year suspension as a fan/spectator, participant, and leader from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

#### Third Offense

Lifetime suspension as a fan/spectator, participant, and leader from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

### **Verbal Abuse**

GSC Parks strives to create an environment that teaches individuals the art of good sportsmanship. Verbal abuse is defined as the intentional act of insulting another individual through oral measure with the aim of offending. If any abusive language or behavior is directed at others, those confrontational parties will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

#### *Adult Leaders and/or Participants*

##### First Offense

Up to one-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

##### Second Offense

Up to a three-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

##### Third Offense

Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, fan/spectator from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

#### *Youth Leaders and/or Participants*

##### First Offense

Immediate suspension as a participant from game and suspension from next scheduled game, program, or activity.

##### Second Offense

Up to one-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident of the second offense.



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#### Third Offense

Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

#### *Harassing Fans/Spectators*

Harassment is defined as, but not limited to, abusive language, tormenting or participants, and the baiting of individuals. The following set of actions will be implemented against harassing fans/spectators.

##### First Offense

Immediate ejection and two game suspension.

##### Second Offense

Up to one-year suspension as a participant and/or fan/spectator from the date of the incident in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

##### Third Offense

Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and/or fan/spectator in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

### **Use of Racial and/or Gender Epithets**

GSC Parks has zero-tolerance for any use of racial and/or gender epithets used in reference to an individual's race, color, gender, or sexual orientation. Any person(s) found to have used such epithets will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

#### *Leaders*

##### First Offense

Up to a lifetime suspension as a leader and/or participant from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks. Up to one-year suspension as a fan/spectator in the GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

#### *Participants*

##### Adults

##### First Offense

Up to one-year suspension as a participant, leader, and fan/spectator from the date of the incident in GSC



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Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

#### Second Offense

Up to three-year suspension as a participant, leader, and fan/spectator from the date of the incident in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

#### Third Offense

Lifetime suspension as a participant, leader, and fan/spectator from the date of the incident in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

#### Youth

##### First Offense:

Two game, activity, program suspension.

##### Second Offense

Up to one-year suspension as participant, leader, and fan/spectator from the date of the incident in GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

##### Third Offense

Suspension as a participant, leader, and fan/spectator from GSC Parks sporting activities and related sporting events until the age of eighteen (18) or for one-year whichever is greater.

## Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Sportsmanship is defined as conduct becoming to a sportsman, such as fairness, courteous relations and acceptance of results. The Georgetown-Scott County Parks and Recreation Department is promoting these ideals in its sporting activities, programs, and sports related events. The items listed in the above sections constitute conduct, justifying the noted penalty and representing unsportsmanlike conduct. Should any unsportsmanlike conduct occur, not specifically addressed in the previous sections, GSC Parks, in its discretion, may institute penalties for such behavior consistent with this policy. In determining whether an incident or unsportsmanlike conduct has occurred, the rules of that particular sport may be considered.

## Failure to Follow Rules and/or Directions from Leaders, Staff, and/or Management

### *Adult Leaders and/or Participants*

#### First Offense

Immediate suspension as a participant from game, program, and/or facility and suspension for up to



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one month from the scheduled game, program, or activity.

#### Second Offense

Up to a three-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

#### Third Offense

Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, fan/spectator from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident.

#### *Youth Leaders and/or Participants*

##### First Offense

Immediate suspension as a participant from game, program, and/or facility and suspension from next scheduled game, program, or activity.

##### Second Offense

Up to one-year suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks from the date of the incident of the second offense.

##### Third Offense

Lifetime suspension as a leader, participant, and fan/spectator from GSC Parks sporting activity, program, or within GSC Parks facilities and parks.

## **Procedures Following Incident**

When a person engages in unsportsmanlike behavior, the GSC Parks' sporting activities and related sports events, recreation supervisors, recreation leaders, league supervisors, and/or league officials:

1. Will have the individuals involved in the dispute escorted from the park or facility at which the event is occurring. During such time, the sporting event or program will be stopped until those involved have left the park or facility property.
2. If a person(s) refuses to leave the premises, the Georgetown-Scott County Police Department will be contacted and asked to enforce the ruling of the officials.
3. Individuals removed from the park or facility will be sent a notification letter stating their violation of the Behavior Management Policy.
4. The individual will then have seven days from the receipt date of the registered mailed letter to respond with a written statement, explaining or defending their involvement and setting out their perception of the altercation as it occurred. The response must be received by the office of the GSC Parks' Director (140 Pavilion Dr., Georgetown, KY 40324) on or before





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the seventh day from the receipt date of the registered mailed letter. NO written statement will be considered in the investigation after the seven days.

5. After the statements are received, an investigation will be conducted, and GSC Parks will render a judgement of the altercation within ten working days from the statement deadline.
  - a. A panel consisting of the department director/director's designee, program superintendent/president and the program supervisor of that particular program in which the altercation occurred, will conduct the investigation.
  - b. During the investigation, the individual(s) accused will be suspended from all sporting activities and/or sports related events.
6. Those found in violation of this policy, or who are not content with the panel's decision, may file an appeal to the office of the director of GSC Parks, as noted above. In filing an appeal, an individual(s) will have five business days to respond in writing from notification of the decision and said appeal shall be received in the director's office, on or before, the fifth day after notification of the decision. Individuals may be asked to appear before the GSC Parks Board. All appeal decisions are final and are not subject to review.

***\*\*\*If GSC Parks deems a physical or verbal altercation, use of racial and/or gender epithets, unsportsmanlike conduct, and/or failure to follow rules and/or directions from leaders, staff, and/or management as a flagrant and deliberate act of violence, GSC Parks reserves the right to enforce a more severe punishment within this established disciplinary code.***

**I have received a copy of the GSC Parks Behavior Management Policy and Procedures.**

**Child's (Participant's) Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sport/Activity** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_